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- Mary Hoff reported that the Delta College Board of Trustees voted at its meeting last night, 5 to 2, to postpone the vote for 30 days on the proposed Victor Road site for the satellite campus in Lodi. Ms. Hoff stated that a petition is being circulated that reads, *"Delta College is considering purchasing 168 acres on Highway 12/Victor Road and Kennison Lane using educational bond funds. The College administration has indicated that they intend to sell roughly half the property to commercial developers to make enough money to build the campus buildings and after they have successfully converted this Ag-40 zoned land to commercial zoning. We, the undersigned, are opposed to the use of educational bond funds for the purpose of purchasing property on Kennison Land and Highway 12/Victor Road for any purpose other than education. We are opposed to Delta using its educational status to contravene agricultural zoning to allow commercial development"* (filed). To date, over 500 signatures have been collected. The Delta College Board of Trustees also received an e-mail from the Delta Sierra Club (filed) stating that it will do a thorough environmental review in conjunction with the Environment Impact Report. Ms. Hoff pointed out that other sites were considered, three of which were on the west side, that had the approximate acreage needed by Delta College, as well as easy access, infrastructure, and development already occurring in those areas. Other suggestions have been made to incorporate Delta College into the downtown or east side of Lodi, including the use of vacant buildings and empty lots along Main, Sacramento, Pine, and Elm Streets. Ms. Hoff stated that a culinary school could go into the downtown restaurant area, or a nursing program could be implemented at one of the Lodi Memorial Hospital facilities. She stated that she was in favor of Delta College locating in Lodi; however, she was strongly opposed to the east Victor Road site for this campus.

In response to Mayor Hitchcock, Mr. King reported that Lodi suggested two sites to the Delta College Board: one along Highway 99 north of the Mokelumne River and the other along Victor Road. Delta College analyzed a total of eight sites, ultimately selected the Victor Road location, and subsequently entered into a six-month due diligence period with the City. There is currently no action pending before the City Council; although, there may be in the future depending upon the actions taken by the Delta College Board of Trustees.

- David Nielsen requested information on what the specific plan and timeline was for the City to assist the neighbors of East Locust Street before they proceed to sue unresponsive landlords in Small Claims Court. He has been working with the Police Department and Code Enforcement to resolve the many issues; however, it has been 2 months and 14 days since he first brought the neighborhood concerns to the attention of the City Council.

Mr. King suggested that a Shirtsleeve Session be scheduled to further discuss the status of this matter. Community Improvement Manager, Joseph Wood, has been in contact with individual property owners on a case-by-case basis and recommendations have been made with regard to physical changes to properties, businesses practices, and in some cases the need for an on-site manager. The Police Department has committed to overtime funds to provide saturated enforcement in the area and will continue to do so.

Mayor Pro Tempore Johnson believed that litigation was an option available to the residents outside of the City's purview and he encouraged them to proceed. He further encouraged City staff to provide the necessary documentation and support to the neighbors to assist in this effort.

- Eileen St. Yves announced that the Lodi Improvement Committee will hold a meeting on September 5 to discuss these issues and will provide information to assist the community. Further, Ms. St. Yves reported that new California legislation would allow sexual offenders to live on property, against which property owners could not contest. New legislation would also extend the eviction notice to 60 days, which would make it much more difficult for the removal of a tenant.
- Virginia Snyder stated that in 1993 former City Attorney, Bob McNatt, assisted the East Side Improvement Committee in drafting a plan that was legal for neighbors to sue property owners in Small Claims Court and allow them to remove tenants who were into drugs, prostitution, and gangs. She urged Council to give the neighbors of East Locust Street every bit of support, including legal advice.

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CC: rrodriguez@deltacollege.edu

Subject:  Delta College Site Selection

S.J. Delta College Board:

Attached is an Acrobat PDF file of a Sierra Club letter concerning the Lodi site selection for a Delta College Campus.

Below is the text of that letter in the case that you are not able to open the attachment.

August 14, 2006

San Joaquin Delta College Board of Trustees
5151 Pacific Ave
Stockton, CA 95207

Via: e-mail


Dear Board Members:

Sierra Club opposes the selection of a Lodi area campus site without fully

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evaluating the environmental aspects of that selection.

Even though compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines will need to be done at some time before the campus is constructed, an early CEQA evaluation of the proposed Mokelumne River site is necessary because of the following factors:

- The habitat aspect of riparian land.
- The area being within the 100 year flood plane with a history of levee breaks.
- The transportation impacts.
- The air quality impacts.

Expenditure of public monies on this site location before the CEQA process is accomplished could put San Joaquin Delta College in the position of doing the CEQA review too late to provide meaningful information to both the Board of Trustees and the public.

The above listed factors do not cover all the environmental concerns Sierra Club may have on this project. Sierra Club reserves the right to add additional factors.

Sierra Club requests that it be kept informed on the progress of this project.

Yours truly,



Dale E. Stocking
Delta-Sierra Group Conservation Chair
Mother Lode Chapter Chair

CC: Dr. Raul Rodriquez

Attachments

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